THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

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SIGMUND DEACON, } EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS
HENRY PETERSON, }

A FAMILY NEWSPAPER: NEUTRAL IN POLITICS.

[TERMS—FOR THESE TO CLOSE THE PROSPECTUS ON SIXTY DAYS.]

DEVOTED TO MORALITY, PURE LITERATURE, FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC NEWS, AGRICULTURE, THE COMMERCIAL INTEREST, SCIENCE, ART AND AMUSEMENT.

VOLUME XXXIV. PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1855. WHOLE NO. 1703.

Choice Poetry.

TO ONE ONCE LOVED.

Go, faithless soul, unmoved no longer. We need not speak
Of the love by two hearts once together but cruelly rent
The love in by-gone hours that linged but been turned to deep
hate.
The dream that deliciously bound me, thank heaven, is
past
And little does tender known eyes I have now looked
Ah! and to it, girl, that those eloquent eyes should betray
Such a heart as that of your false lover has been, and
always.
Think, child! not of accurate departed, when close to my
cheek
Your mouth have the burning and tremulous whispered
of love,
What then the whole empire, the regale seemed softly to
speak
As on your cold meetings they smilingly looked from
above.
Have spurned written your sweet breast that the whole-
winged dove,
That sent to softly to some for every region has flown.
Alas! that such heavenes ever should leave you alone.

Remember, but, child of regret, how your brain can re-
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Each word, each thought, love freighted passage of Tenny-
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When seated at evening, you read it, and
Or called out some poor fitting phrase of my own to re-
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Your heart is all sunshine, mine is a dark and stormy
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Nothing thrives before you the golden hourglass
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When Wealth to the silver shall lend you, with grace to
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All luxuriance and whirls at an image that crosses it in
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When pledges are said your vows to ope shall declare,
And you're happy, and blessed, and loved—Coming Lover
Beware.
May memory shed from the past on your soul not a
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Farewell.

Original Novelet.

MARK, THE SEXTON.

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CHAPTER XVI.

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Estelle, more beautiful and impassioned than ever, looked the queen indeed, her great starry eyes flashing upon yours, then, sudden as thought, their brilliant light was lost.

"How can the border thinker of your cousin Lucy?" she said once, when I had no idea she was near me.

I looked up to answer, but she was gone, her hard, dry, nasal-ring laugh ringing in my ears.

Followed to a large easy chair, sat Mary, no longer dressed in the habiliments of her order, but laughed, sadly smiling and emaciated May. Ilenley devoted himself to her. His unchanging sweet smile, and his low, earnest tones during silence: and the child's thin, shadowy fingers lay in his own. Just all her art was vain, so often beside the mirrored little figure, striving to coax a more cheerful expression to her wan face, to bring forth the ringing laugh that had made that home so merry. And, oh! my heart ached whenever that little head was turned with a motion as if life were almost exhausted, and the two brilliant eyes looked piteously in mine.

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"Oh! it's in each great trouble I am."

I urged her to speak out her grief.

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SATURDAY, JUNE [illegible], 1855.

[illegible]

TERMS, &c.

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13 " (and one to the getter up of the Club,)	15,00	"
20 " (and one to the getter up of the Club,)	20,00	"

Persons residing in British North America must remit twenty-six cents in addition to the subscription price, as we have to prepay the United States postage.

Additions to Clubs.—Any person having sent the money and names for a Club, may add new names to it at the same rate, provided the latter will allow their subscriptions to end at the same time those of the main list do. We will willingly supply the back numbers if we have them. Our object is to have all the subscriptions in each Club end at the same time, and thus prevent confusion.

The Money for Clubs must always be sent in advance. When the sum is large, a draft should be procured, if possible—the cost of which may be deducted from the amount.

Post-Masters or others sending for Clubs, would confer a favor by having them sent to one address, when they can do so conveniently.

The papers to Clubs are invariably stopped at the expiration of the period for which they have subscribed.

A New Arrangement.—Our subscribers will take notice that we now have no collecting agents, out of this State. They will therefore please remit to us direct.

All persons addressing letters to us should be careful to give the name of the State, as well as of the town, in which they live. *All letters must be post-paid.*

Subscribers wishing their paper changed, will please give the name of the Post-Office to be changed *from*, as well as the Post-Office they wish it hereafter sent to.

We trust that such of our old friends the Post-Masters, as do not feel inclined to take advantage of our liberal offers themselves, will show our Prospectus to other influential and responsible persons who will be willing to raise clubs, &c.

PROSPECTUS.

We may state, for the benefit of strangers who chance to see this number of the Post, that it is now in its thirty-fourth year, and has between 80,000 and 90,000 subscribers.

Upon the list of its contributors are enrolled the names of Mrs. Southworth, Grace Greenwood, Mrs. Denison, Mary Irving, Emma L. Sproat, Alice Carey, Metta Victoria Fuller, &c. *Mrs. Southworth and Grace Greenwood will write for no other weekly paper.*

Among the original productions already engaged for the present year, we may mention

The Gipsies Errand, by Grace Greenwood,

Mark, the Sexton, by Mrs. Denison,

The Nabob's Will, by Grace Greenwood,

Nancy Selwyn; or, The Cloud with a Silver Lining, by Mary Irving.

Vivia, a Story of Life's Mystery, by Mrs. Southworth, author of "The Lost Heiress," &c., &c., &c.

In addition, of course, to the above, we shall endeavor to keep up our usual variety of Engravings, Original Sketches and Letters, Pictures of Life in our own and foreign lands, Choice Selections from all sources, Agricultural Articles, General News, Humorous Anecdotes, View of the Produce and Stock Markets, Bank Note List, Editorials, &c., &c. Our object being to give a Complete Record, as far as our limits will admit, of the Great World. For terms, &c., see head of column.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Entanglement" and "Solitude [illegible] Meditations" are respectfully declined. "The Victim and the Avenger," by Flora, is also declined. We cannot return contributions. The new Postage Law requires packages to be prepaid, and were we to return all rejected communications, it would be an expensive item in our business.

THE PORTLAND RIOT.

The more reliable accounts from Portland do not, in our opinion, sustain the charges against the Mayor, Neal Dow. It appears from the evidence produced on his trial for a violation of the liquor law, that the liquors were ordered by the Mayor and a committee of the Aldermen, in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Aldermen, instructing them to establish the usual agency for the sale of liquors for medicinal and sacramental purposes. The only point upon which the prosecution could hang an argument, was that there could be no agency until an agent were appointed. But the Court properly set aside this as a mere quibble—stating that the law made no special provision as to whether the purchase of liquors for an agency should be made before or after the appointment of the agent—that the Court could infer no intent on the part of the defendant to sell the liquor illegally, but that it was ordered for the use of the City Agency. Mr. Dow was therefore ordered to be discharged, and the liquors restored to the care of the City Agent. Applause followed the decision.

As to the dispersion of the rioters, by the use of fire-arms, the Coroner's Jury decided that the man who was killed, came to his death in an effort to destroy the property of the city, their verdict imputing no blame to the Mayor and other authorities. It appears that the work of demolition had commenced—that the riot act had been read—and the mob repeatedly commanded and adjured to disperse. Not only this, but that pistols, loaded simply with powder, had been repeatedly fired, producing derision in the mob. The company that refused to fire, ingloriously or sympathizingly took to its heels; and there was every prospect of mob-rule becoming triumphant, when one volley from loaded muskets established the supremacy of the law.

It is said that the principal mischief was done by boys, and we think this very probable. In all our Philadelphia riots, boys from seventeen to twenty-one, have acted a very prominent part—full-grown men, however, standing in the back-ground to encourage and uphold them if necessary. In some cases the men had not the courage to begin the riot, but urged on these reckless and badly-reared youths, to deeds which they themselves were afraid to perpetrate.

Living in a city somewhat notorious at one period for its mobs, we think we understand tolerably well the nature of that cruel but cowardly many-headed animal. We have seen a Mayor of Philadelphia come on the ground, make a speech to the mob, and call them "his police;" and we have seen a costly building in flames in about an hour afterwards. And we saw, at last, things come to such a pass in Philadelphia, that the reign of violence had to be broken by a volley of musketry; which did the work effectually, not only for that occasion, but for years. How much better would it have been to have done as Mayor Dow has done in Portland, put down the mob spirit at once; and not wait till dwelling after dwelling, and hall after hall, and church after church, had been sacrificed to a foolish desire to conciliate an unprincipled mob.

We have called mobs cowardly—and so they are as a general thing, for they are usually composed of men who are conscious that they are doing what is not right, and what they should be ashamed of. But there are exceptions to the rule.

When the Native Americans, after being dispersed by a gang of rowdies at Kensington Market, in 1844, met again in Independence Square, and resolved that they would exercise their Constitutional right to meet peaceably in the spot from which they had been driven, they were not a *cowardly* mob. In truth, they were not, strictly speaking, a mob at all; for they had a perfect right to meet at the place referred to, and they also had a right to carry their guns with them. The party that attacked them there was a mob—but they were a lawful meeting of American citizens, defending their Constitutional right of free-speech and free-assemblage. We shall not discuss the good policy or the propriety of that meeting at Kensington market; but the right to meet there, and speak, and pass resolutions, is undoubted.

When, however, the Native Americans—or rather, the baser part of them—not satisfied with defending their own rights, entered upon a course of riot and outrage, giving both the private dwellings and the churches of Roman Catholics to the flames, then they became a mob, cowardly, [illegible] and cruel as other mobs; and nothing but powder and ball was able to bring them to their senses. Of course there were the usual charges from [illegible] and "old fogies" about needless slaughter, &c.; some, it appeared, would rather have seen the muskets wrested from the military by the howling mob, whose hands were already accustomed to grasp them—but from the moment that decisive and most merciful word "fire" was given, the horizon began to clear, and the atmosphere of Philadelphia has been healthier and purer ever since.

Neither was the Tea Party mob, which performed an unlawful but very useful act in Boston harbor, in days gone by, a mob that was either cowardly or brutal. The severance of the ties which bound the Colonies to Great Britain had not then become a probable or desirable thing. For our forefathers loved the land of their ancestors with a love which we seldom imagine, and which probably was fully equal to that now cherished by us for the Union. They called it the "*Mother Country*"—the most endearing of all appellations. But though probably there was not a single member of that Tea Party but would have repelled the idea of severing the connection with Great Britain, yet doubtless each man had made up his mind to resort to anything, rather than submit to the tyrannical and unjust burdens which Parliament seemed determined to lay upon the colonies. And thus the Boston Tea Party was not, properly speaking, a Mob—but the Germ of a Revolution.

And therefore when we declaim against Mobs, we cannot class even illegal efforts for the establishment of the Just, the Right and the True, with efforts of a similar character for the doing of Injustice and Wrong. There are frequent allusions in the Scriptures to violence which would have been done to the Saviour and His disciples, by the Chief Priests and the Rulers, but that they "feared the people." And although that fear was of a popular sentiment manifested not according to law, it is very evident that the Apostles were not disposed to blame very severely the bridge that carried themselves and a Righteous Cause safely over. And we confess it is difficult for even the most devoted friend of law and order to contend, that there is no difference between an unlawful assemblage whose object is the vindication of the Right, and a similar assemblage whose object is the upholding of the Wrong. In fact there is often such an infinite difference between the Right and the Wrong, that the common sense of men is disposed sometimes to wink at the doing of the smaller evil, the violation of the law, rather than that a great Wrong should go triumphant on its way. But we have been led into an article, when we only intended a brief comment. And if the views expressed be not entirely correct, they may at least have the effect of furnishing a subject for thought to our readers.

HIGHFALUTING.

There was a very amusing amount of "highfaluting" at the recent Know Nothing Banquet, in this city. One gentleman, a Mr. Stewart, of Alabama, said:

"He was a Philadelphian by birth, and he felt proud of it. *His youth had been passed in rolling upon the grass in Independence Square.* He was also proud of his adopted State. Alabama was too young to have had many deeds of glory to recount, but if opportunity offered, she would show her spirit. In conclusion, the speaker called on Pennsylvania to help Alabama to preserve the Union."

"His youth had been spent in *rolling upon the grass* in Independence Square." We should fear that mode of spending his youth, must have made him a little "verdant."

"Illinois was next called. Mr. Jennings replied. He was not an old man, but *he had already been immolated upon the altar of his country.*"

Being "*immolated upon the altar of his country,*" meant, it appeared, that he had run for an office, and been defeated!

"Massachusetts was the next State in order. Mr. Ely said that he did not know that he had a right to speak, but he felt proud that in his veins ran the blood of old Elder Brewster, *who landed on Plymouth Rock from the Mayflower.* After an eloquent vindication of Massachusetts and her institutions, he said the heart of the Bay State *was right.* The doctors were in consultation over "Sam," and it was to be hoped that they would not emasculate him. Massachusetts, at all events, *could stand alone, and yet she could not stand alone. She wants her sister States to help her.*"

The idea of "feeling proud that in his veins ran the blood of a" foreigner! "Sam" should have shown him the door at once. But then he was a New-Englander; and no New-Englander ever spoke at a public meeting without alluding to Plymouth Rock. Even were a meeting to encourage the breeding of fishes, some Yankee would have a word to say about the Plymouth Rock-fish. We are glad to hear, however, that "*the heart of the Bay State is right.*" Though we are sorry to learn that Massachusetts both "could stand alone, and yet she could not stand alone, but wants her sister States to help her." From Mr. Ely's account, the Bay State, notwithstanding her anti-liquor law, must be a little "how came you so."

Mr. Mallory, of N. Y., proposed to sketch the *platform.* He would make the constitution the corner-stone of the fabric. Plymouth Rock, free speech and a free press would furnish the superstructure, and he would put the open Bible and free schools as the cap-stone.

Queer kind of a "*platform*" that. The "Constitution the *corner stone*—Plymouth Rock"—that Rock again; what are the Know Nothings coming to?—"*free speech* and a free press the superstructure; and the open Bible and Free Schools as the cap-stone." We never knew a platform to have a "corner-stone," much less a "cap-stone," before; but the idea of using an "open Bible and a Free School" for the latter purpose, is truly appalling. What school could ever be gathered and held together in such an elevated and insecure position. Mr. Mallory must be a new hand at the building business.

In conclusion, the Reporters say that the whole affair "passed off with great spirit, and a vast deal of enthusiasm was manifested." We are a little afraid, from the above, that the "spirit" was of that character which is first poured in before it comes out. We know that nearly all the politicians are sadly given to "highfaluting;" but we are afraid that the Know Nothings, judging from this "Banquet," have a little more than their share. Mayor Conrad opened the evening by stating that there "was *a parsimony peculiar to affluence;*" and any one who remained to the close, must have been convinced of the profound justice of his remark.

CONRAD UPON KOSSUTH.

We regretted to perceive, while reading the report of the speeches at the recent Know Nothing Banquet in this city, that Mayor Conrad went somewhat out of his way to attack the character of the exiled and unfortunate patriot, Kossuth—denominating him a "*sordid impostor.*" We are not one of those who advocated the affording of "material aid" to the Hungarian nation—on the other hand, we steadily opposed it from the first—but we have seen nothing to weaken our belief that Kossuth is one of the most eloquent and noble-hearted of men, whose name will be inscribed on the page of history by the side of Lafayette and Kosciusko. We never blamed him for seeking to enlist the support of America to restore the fallen fortunes of his people—it was both natural and proper that he should do so. His duty was to urge, and ours to refuse. But let us not join in heaping slander upon a noble head, simply because it is not surrounded with the halo of success. It does not become Americans, of all men, to take delight in pointing out even the faults of those who have contended and suffered for *Freedom.* Mr. Conrad had a great deal to say of our "fathers"—but our "fathers" were not the men to fling insult upon a great patriot in his misfortunes, even if he were a *Foreigner.*

Filibuster Patriotism.—The New York Sun, a chief organ of the Filibusters, contains the following relative to the failure of the expedition against Cuba:—

It is said, too, that the Junta has, in disgust, separated from or dismissed the Chief, *who was to receive a million of dollars when he had established Cuban independence.* Is this so? The dear-bought experience which the Cubans have had, will not, we think, be lost upon them. They will not be likely to trust their cause hereafter to generals and aristocratic officers, who have no heart sympathy with them.

So the "chief" of the Filibusters was to have had "a million of dollars" was he, as his share of the booty. The other officers, doubtless, were promised sums in proportion. What disinterested patriotism! How ardently these gentlemen must have longed—in the region of the pocket—for the overthrow of Spanish despotism in the "gem of the Antilles!"

But where were these millions to come *from?* Doubtless from the sequestered estates of thousands of the wealthy Cubans. No wonder then, that nearly the whole population flew to arms to repulse such *chivalrous and disinterested* champions of freedom.

THE POSTAL SYSTEM.

While our population has increased in sixty years, seven-fold, letter correspondence by mail has increased four hundred and forty fold, or sixty-three times as fast.

In the year 1790, [illegible] letters were sent by mail; in 1853, over [illegible]. The population of Great Britain [illegible] by mail, [illegible] letters where our people write [illegible]. In London, there are [illegible] letters written to each individual, while in New York there are but twenty-three. New York City [illegible] London, with about [illegible] times the population, has [illegible] post-offices; [illegible], with about half the population of New York, has 107; Liverpool has 58, Bristol 90, and Glasgow 77. Their local circulation of letters is more than one hundred times as great as ours, is a source of large profit to the Post-Office Department, and, at the same time, furnishes the greatest accommodation to all the citizens. The drop-letters of the city of London alone, amount to more than fifty times as many as the drop-letters of the whole United States. The postage on London local letters, is $1,225,000; the total expense of letter-carriers in the United Kingdom, $1,[illegible]; so the profits on London local letters pay more than six-sevenths of the salaries. By the English system, every letter is charged at the same rate, drop-letters and letters for any distance within the Kingdom. All go by weight—one penny for those under half an ounce, double that sum up to an ounce, and beyond that, half ounces are not reckoned; but all over one ounce and less than two ounces are charged four postages, and so on for heavier letters. At all offices except in London, letters must be prepaid by stamps only or not at all. All postages, not prepaid, are to be charged double. In the United States there are three rates of postage; one cent for drop-letters; three cents for letters that go less than 3,000 miles; ten cents for over 3,000 miles. There are three methods of rating letters by weight; drop-letters, without regard to weight; mailed letters throughout the country, a postage for each half ounce; letters for foreign countries a postage for each half ounce up to an ounce, and then two postages for each half ounce or fraction of an ounce. There are also two ways of receiving postage, either by money or stamps.

The gross receipts of the British Post-Office for 1853, amounted to $12,872,089, and the expenses to $7,003,399; leaving a profit of $5,868,640. In mail transportation there is of course a greater cost to this country than Great Britain. But then we go to positively four times the labor and expense of receiving, stamping and mailing letters, supplying stationery, and attending to the various duties of our post-offices. There are other facts which show great mismanagement in our postal arrangements.

The Tolland County Gazette, published in Rockville, Conn., says that among the rubbish received by the paper-makers of that city from the post-offices, letters are frequently found, more than two thousand having been received at one paper mill in the last two years:—

"Among these letters are a great many written by business men, and of much consequence to their proper owners. They came from all sections of the country, quite a number mailed in California, and some foreign letters. On a large majority of these letters the postage had been prepaid, so that the notion that a prepaid letter is more likely to be safely carried to its right destination, is at once shown to be incorrect by the startling fact revealed by these '*lost letters!*' Among a lot of papers published at the New York City Post-Office, was a letter which contained a check for $105. Out of seven or eight sacks from the Post-Office, Providence, Rhode Island, about half a bushel of letters were found, and among them one containing money and insurance papers of value. A lot of papers from the Hartford Post-Office contained, among others, a letter mailed at Pittsfield, Mass., directed to a firm in Hartford, which contained a check for thirty dollars."

The business of the public, in these instances, has been shamefully neglected, and our whole system of postal operations, as compared with that of other countries, is lamentably deficient.

In the preliminary hearings in the case of W. G. Kendall, postmaster at New Orleans, who is under trial on the charge of embezzling money from letters, it transpired that the secret agents of the post-office are in the habit of opening letters passing by mail, on pretence of ascertaining fraud. Mr. D. T. Blair, mail agent, was arrested recently in New Orleans, charged with opening letters. This practice, not having been rebuked, has grown to be a matter of custom, and it is probable that he would have escaped unscathed, had it not been for the recent charge of Judge McCabe to the Grand Jury, wherein the Judge held that mail agents who were guilty of opening private correspondence, after it had been entrusted to the custody of the post-office, no matter what the motive, subjected themselves to the penalty of the law.

One witness in the case, Isaiah Green, testified:

"Mail agents carry keys to open mail bags. They have, he believes, access to them at all times. They open letters and employ decoy letters."

George Whitman, a mail agent, testifies: "Has heard frequently of mail agents opening letters. Has consulted the Department in regard to the opening of letters; they do not approve it, but they want it. There is no authority for opening letters to learn the secrets of politicians. The Post-Office Department does not authorise the opening of letters."

But the counsel suggested, "winks at it?"

Witness: "Yes, I suppose that is the word."

The reader will remember the obloquy which attached to Sir James Graham, in England, for opening the letters of the Polish and Hungarian refugees, and affording information of their contents to the Austrian Government. The press, not only of Great Britain, but of this country, stigmatized the action as unmanly and treacherous. American editors surely know that private correspondence in this country has, for a long while, been subjected to just as unholy a surveillance; but though some few have had the courage to call for redress, others prefer waiting for outrages in France or England, on which to vent their enthusiasm safely, railing either against errors in foreign countries, or sin in the abstract—which, as Lowell has it:

"Is afers [illegible], an' never gets pitied,
Because it's a crime no one ever committed;
But you mustn't be hard on partikler sins,
Coz then you'll be kicking the people's own shins."

These Mail Agent Inquisitors should be suppressed—and the private affairs of our citizens released from espionage. Mail agents, of course, have a perfect right to open their own decoy letters—but they have no right to open those of other people, even of suspected individuals.

LAWYERS' SPEECHES.

It was recently decided in a Milwaukee Court, by Judge Larrabee, that a lawyer is not liable for an action of slander for words spoken in arguing a case before a Jury or Court; that though the accusation was false and malicious, the defendant was protected by his privilege, be at the time acting as counsel.

Too much latitude altogether is given to the legal fraternity. A nervous, modest witness, "unaccustomed to public speaking," is apt to be very much confused, no matter how certain he may be of what he is about to testify—even when questioned in a gentlemanly manner. But when he fears that he will be subjected to the annoyance of being compelled to submit to the brow-beatings of an insolent lawyer, as is too often the case, and hear his motives impugned, and his character defamed, in a place where he cannot justify himself, it is no wonder that he should refrain, as far as possible, from giving evidence in any case, no matter how important his testimony may be in furthering the ends of justice. There are many lawyers who are famous and in great request, for the manner in which they "crush out" testimony prejudicial to the interests of their client, and throw doubt unjustly upon the character of the opposite party and his witnesses. The truth can be elicited from an unwilling witness without browbeating, and the true character of a suit or action displayed without vulgar abuse. It is not necessary that a lawyer, when conducting a suit, should cease to be a gentleman.

Sending Back Paupers.—The Whig papers of Boston have been going into convulsions, because the Know Nothing Administration, among a number of paupers shipped back to England, sent one lunatic. But it is charged that during the good Whig administration of Gov. Washburn, six hundred paupers were shipped to Europe, including over a hundred lunatics! These party papers, with their merely partisan views of men and things—ignoring entirely, very often, the principles involved—commit very amusing blunders. Any candid man must admit that we already are supporting more than our fair share of the paupers and lunatics of Europe—and that it is time a corrective was administered to the practice of "selling poor-houses, and sending the inmates to America." In administering this corrective, the most careful administration may make mistakes—which errors should be viewed with due charity. America will always welcome gladly the honest and industrious poor of other lands—but of foreign paupers and criminals we already have more than our fair proportion.

CURIOUS PROPHECIES.

The London Illustrated News contains the following:

The Rev. Dr. Cumming quoted, in the course of a series of lectures he has been giving in [illegible] Street, Belgrave Square, the following [illegible] of [illegible] events—not, he said, as of inspired [illegible], but as proofs of early and [illegible] interpretation of inspired prophecy. The following lines he quoted from an old volume of predictions, written in the fifteenth century. In 1453 the Turks took Constantinople. The poet says:

In [illegible] hundred years, the Bear
The Crescent [illegible];
But if the [illegible] and Bull [illegible],
The Bear [illegible].

But mark, in twice ten years again
Let Islam know and fear—
The Cross shall stand, the Crescent wane,
Dissolve, and disappear.

The reverend lecturer also quoted from a work in the Augustinian monastery at Rome, entitled, "De fluctibus mysticae navis, 1575," in which are these remarkable words:—"Before the middle of the nineteenth century seditions will be excited everywhere in Europe; famines, pestilences, and earthquakes will spread desolation over many cities. Rome will lose her sceptre, the Pope will be made captive by his own people. A prince from the North will overrun Europe; his sword will vigorously defend the church, uphold the orthodox faith, and subdue the Moslem."

These, said the lecturer, were plainly drawn from inspired prophecy. Their fulfilment is evidence of their origin.

The editor of the Illustrated News remarks upon the above, that Dr. Cumming should inform the public of the title of the "old volume" referred to, written in the "fifteenth century," and where it may be found—else his communication may be characterized as simply a "cock and bull" story. Doubtless the Doctor will be along with his proof, or want of proof, before many days. But whether the prediction is as old as the fifteenth century, or not, we have an idea that we saw it a number of years ago, before there was the least prospect of a collision such as the present.

In an interesting article published two or three years since, in one of the English magazines, a number of these old prophecies were given, and we think the "cock and bull" one among them. Several distinctly referred to a great struggle between Eastern and Western Europe, in which the former finally was to be defeated with great slaughter, at a certain place in Germany—the tradition having clung to that spot for several centuries. While too much credit should not be given to these old predictions, the habitually incredulous should re- [illegible]

IMPORTANT IF TRUE.

[illegible]

New Publications.

[illegible]

Clippings.

[illegible]

General News.

[illegible]

NEWS ITEMS.

[illegible]

SATURDAY
EVENING POST.
PHILADELPHIA

General News.

FOREIGN NEWS.

[illegible]

SATURDAY

EVENING POST.

PHILADELPHIA:

SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1855

General News.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Advices brings 1 day later from Europe.

Lord Palmerston, on behalf of the government, has made explanations regarding the course of the Vienna Conference, and promising support to the proposed reduction of the navy.

Parliament had adjourned over to the 14th. Lord Palmerston had a private interview with the Queen, and Lord John Russell had left London for the country. There were over 200 present. Lord Derby censured the military management of government, and declared his intention of sending the ships of the Baltic squadron to Barcelona.

It was reported that, by the 20th of June, all available men in Great Britain, belonging to the militia, would be called out and formed for the war.

The deputation of the friends of Smith O'Brien had had an interview with Lord Palmerston, and requested his pardon and release, which he declined to grant.

The Monitor has a despatch from Peloponnesus, dated the 25th, (yesterday), stating that the French had landed at Scio, and at Smyrna, between the Castle and the town. Provisions began to fall in price.

The Turkish Government has 224 to join England. The British cruisers had brought down the Russian ships of war at Odessa, and had fired on the batteries.

Official information reached the British Consul at Odessa, that the Russian loss in killed was twice as great as that of the allies.

Accounts to the 19th ult. from Vienna announce that the Austrian army in the Crimea would be increased to 60,000 men.

Foreign Miscellaneous.

Foreign Miscellaneous coals are commonly quoted at 5 to 5 1/2 cents per bushel.

On the Canals the coal is charged per 1,000 lbs.

Foreign Miscellaneous coals are commonly quoted at 5 to 5 1/2 cents per bushel, weighing 75 to 80 lbs. to the bushel, or 2,000 lbs. to the ton.

In Boston, a retail chaldron is commonly 2,240 lbs.

Areas of Coal Fields in the United States and Europe.

	Square Miles.		Square Miles.
Alabama,	2,000	Pennsylvania,	13,687
Arkansas,	1,000	Rhode Island,	30
Connecticut,	30	Tennessee,	1,000
Illinois,	4,500	Virginia,	10,000
Indiana,	1,500	Missouri,	1,000
Kentucky,	10,000	Iowa,	1,000
Maryland,	70	Rock, & Unclass'd,	2,700
Michigan,	5,000	Texas,	1,000
Ohio,	15,000	Total,	97,027
Pennsylvania,	13,687		

Proportion of Coal Areas to the Whole Number of Square Miles in Given Countries.

	Square Miles.	Coal to whole area.
Great Britain,	1,500	1-10
France,	1,000	1-50
Belgium,	500	1-10
United States,	3,000	1-30

Probable Annual Production.

	Tons.	Value.
Gt. Britain,	37,000,000	Sterling, £7,400,000
France,	2,000,000	Francs, 50,000,000
Belgium,	1,000,000	Francs, 25,000,000
Prussia,	2,000,000	Thalers, 3,000,000

LATER FROM CALIFORNIA.

The Northern Light brings $1½ passengers, and $234,000 in treasure, on freight.

The passengers have a handsome present of gold in their possession.

The banking establishments of Page, Bacon & Co., have matured, and been duly registered. They will pay dollar for dollar to all creditors, 40 cents on the dollar. These, be it remembered, are among the heaviest sufferers by the failure of Adams & Co.

The Legislature was still in session. Several pieces of property had been sold at high prices, the highest about $300,000.

The Legislature has passed a law that no bankers will not pay—none from inability, others from choice.

Contrary to public expectation, the rivalry between the two companies would not result in the reduction of fare. The rates on both lines remained as formerly, for the first cabin $250, second do. $175, and deck passage $120. It is stated that several hundred miners had been discharged from the Sonora and Mexican mines, and others, who had come down from the mountains, were still arriving, and would not go back, but under the new order of things, have to work on the frontier of Chile.

The U. S. Land Commissioners have confirmed the claim of Antonio M. Pico's heirs to thirty-three square leagues.

The Sacramento Transcript—The rumored defalcation at Sacramento of an agent for a Philadelphia house, to the amount of $150,000, (published so by the papers of yesterday,) is entirely unfounded. The agent, Mr. Samuel W. Knight, Jr., arrived in this city on the 2d inst., and has been engaged in business as much by no means as great as that stated.—San Francisco Herald, May 26.

The Great Canal.—The Nicaragua Accessory Transit Co. have entered an agent for this magnificent work, has returned from London. He says that they have raised $1,000,000 to start on the work. The canal is to extend from Lake Nicaragua to the Pacific ocean in Rivas town, the "divide" between the Atlantic and Pacific waters being 160 feet above Nicaragua. It passes through an immense extent of country, which is fertile and well populated. The work will furnish water for navigation the year round, and will be used for conveyance of timber and other merchandise. It will be a great work, and will open a new commercial era in the world.

The ship Gunnar sailed for New York on the 16th, with 764 tons of wheat and 3,000 sacks and 172 bbls. of flour. The ship Flying Cloud would follow with 1,000 tons of wheat.

Chile and California flour was selling at $4 per bbl. Wheat had been sold at $2 per bushel, and in the low price of $1.62, as a credit sale, at 6 months.

It is said that Omer Pacha has offered the Russian fleet, now blockaded at Sebastopol, the alternative of fighting absolutely, but money was scarce.

The Russian American Government party have again invested Leon, and were determined to take it, or perish in the attempt. The Democratic party, however, had the advantage of position, and would be attended with very unfortunate results to the Russian party, should they be compelled to fall back.

The steamer Star of the West, from San Juan del Sud, is issue about the first of June. The Transit Company had 1,000 men at work.

The Transitonal Californian brokers was gone to Europe, and a large amount of money and grain had been made for shipment to New York and Philadelphia.

A Know Nothing paper called The Citizen, had been started at Leavenworth.

A faction of the Democratic party is opposed to the Nebraska bill, and would support it without success.

The following are the latest market quotations:

Flour—Wheat selling in all Atlantic Cities at $4 per bbl. Rye, $4.25. Sugar, 10 to 11 cents. Coffee, 12 to 13 cents. Molasses, 30 to 35 cents.

The steamship Illinois brings the mails of the 1st inst. She has also $50 passengers, and $400,000 in treasure.

The news from the Isthmus is unimportant. Business was dull. Fare was still $30 cabin, and $20 steerage.

The Paris gives further particulars, and says that the French established at the Dardanelles had been ordered to Constantinople. The Russian fleet was still in the Sea of Azoff, and could not get out to the Black Sea, but could not be attacked in port.

The Government had ordered the Russian Consul to leave Paris, but had countermanded the order

Selected Poetry.

BY BREAM.

BY J. G. WHITTIER.

Selected Sketch.

WASHINGTON AT MOUNT VERNON.

FROM WASHINGTON IRVING'S BIOGRAPHY.

Mount Vernon was his harbor of repose, whenever occasion called, and, as usual, whenever he returned to it, he forgot all the cares of office, and gave himself up entirely to the enjoyment of home; seeking but the society of his family, and the occupations of his private good. The place was endeared to him by the circumstance of his brother Lawrence's having passed there the happiest days of his youth, and the happiest days he had passed here with that brother in the days of boyhood; but it was likewise endeared by its beauty, and well calculated to indulge that vein of

A WARNING.

Mr. Jones becoming disgusted with his fiery red hair, has it dyed in a jet and glossy black," (or par nitrate[illegible]) portions to making his New Year's calls. He is mistaken, as it is feel that his most intimate friends do not know him, and is driven to desperation when his "Dear Emma" rings the bell for the servant to show "this strange person out."

City Scenes.

oak, Ginger, Raspberry, Sassafras, Fennegar, Cherry, Strawberry, Peach, &c."

A large Virginia estate, in these days, was a little empire. The domestic establishment was the seat of government, with its numerous dependencies, such as kitchens, smoke-houses, workshops and cabins, attached to the plantation, called supervisor; his steward or overseer was his prime minister, and exercised considerable sway; had his legion of house negroes for domestic service, and his host of field negroes for the drudgery of tobacco, Indian corn and cotton crops, and for other cut-of-door labor. Their quarters formed a kind of hamlet apart, composed of various huts, with little gardens and poultry-yards, all well stocked, and swarming of children, appertaining to the situation. These, indeed were large wooden edifices for curing tobacco, the negroes' great staple production, and mills for grinding wheat and Indian corn, of which large fields were cultivated for the support of the family and the maintenance of the negroes.

He was an early riser, often before day-break in the winter when the nights were long. On such occasions he lit his own fire, and wrote or read by candle-light. He breakfasted at seven. Dinner was served at 2 o'clock. He ate heartily, but was no epicure, nor critical about his food. His beverage was small beer or cider, and two glasses of old Madeira. He took tea, of which he was very fond, early in the evening, and retired for the night about 9 o'clock.

He continued to the inner by rest weather, he took that occasion to arrange his papers, pore over his accounts, or write letters—leaving part of the latter to be finished in the morning. During his stated to the family.

He treated his negroes with kindness; attended to their comforts; was particularly careful of them in sickness, but never tolerated idleness. All essential to fidelity and good conduct was sure of all their attached tasks. He had a quick eye at individuals, and man's capabilities. An entry in his diary gives a curious instance of this. Four of his negroes employed as house-servants, and sharing alike in his confidence, were discovered one day to be purloining his wine. Instead of turning them off with disgrace, he merely changed their stations, and made them servants of a different order. Hitting down privately by their overseers; how long it took them to get their seven-cut saw and other implements turned to a single edge; and how long to bring the crust of a fallen tree; how long to hew down one in; what trees were suitable for rearing and counselling, and after all, how much work was effected during the time he looked on. From this he made his calculations—see how much they could execute in the course of a day, working actively at set times.

At another time we find him working for a part of two days with Peter, his smith, to make, though on a new invention of his own. The other two or three failures, he accomplished, with less than this. He used frequently, he says, to hire the finest horse in the plough, but was a great risk of spoiling them in giving up-new invention a trial: ever ground thus awarded.

Anon, during a thunder-storm a frightened negro alarms the house with word that the mills (which I, a good economist, had never suffered to work by more than two miles of tide water; several valuable fisheries appertain to it) the whole storm, in fact, is one entire fishery."

These were as yet the quiet-retired days of Virginia.

The estates were large, and continued in the same families for ages. Many of the wealthy planters were intermarried with old families in England. The young men frequently made the tour, were often sent to finish their education there, and on their return brought out the names and habits of the mother country. The Governors of Virginia were from the higher ranks of society, and maintained a corresponding state. The "established" or Episcopal Church predominated throughout the "ancient dominion," as it was termed; and was splendidly endowed into parishes, as in England, each with its parish church. Even the poorest counties in Virginia were ventured with various kinds of fish at the proper season, and in the spring with shad, herrings, bass, carp, sturgeon, &c., in great abundance. The borders of the rivers are washed by more than two million of tide water; several valuable fisheries appertain to it: the whole shore, in fact, is one entire fishery."

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Wit and Humor.

WHAT THE YOUNG MAN SAW IN BROADWAY.

I stood on the steps of the Astor,
And gazed at the living sea
Of various forms on Broadway,
And people by either side.

And I saw a maid who was "elegant,"
In a shawl of a gorgeous hue,
Jump down from the steps of a carriage,
"If Mrs Jay runs I go too!"

Oh, the noise was of carts empty,
(A very frequent sight,)
But a stout peeped out below it,
And a man with a coffin high.

I knew it had once been coffee,
Though now 'twas another thing;
For on it was read "For One Ale,"
"I married in more than I ought."

And I thought as she passed me sidewise,
And the coffin-man was fuddled,
How soon the coffin would receive
Who was then so much admired.

How many a Phœnix leaning
Flows a living grave of long;
His words are all mist and water,
And his heart but a cinder, too.

And I turned me into the Astor,
For my heart was beginning to sink,
And I took up a paper to read there,
And it rung him in for a drink.

It rung him in for nothing,
And then in myself I confessed,
"I can't expect to be treated
That I was so bad as the rest.

—Knickerbocker.

SAM WINTON'S CORN SPECULATION.

[We do not mean, by inserting the following, to commend the morality of Mr. Winton's corn speculation. But it is a capital story, and to make a laugh, and affect forsooth a moral reformation in his life, considerations beneath is sometimes carried on.—*Ed. Post.*]

"Did I ever tell you," said Sam Winton to me one day, "of that 'ere corn spec of mine on the Wabash?"

I should say not.

"You see, Bob," began Sam, "the way it came about was this—I got hard up."

Which is not a very unusual way of bringing with it certain individual of my acquaintance, Sam," I remarked.

"Precisely," said Sam. "Well, I was hard up, and wondering how I would make the amount of capital tell to the best advantage, when, on taking up a newspaper, I saw a notice of a new work on the culture of corn, advertising. The article went to illustrate how many fellows had made their piles out of corn, and concluded with a few observations on the subject with all my fellow-prisoners, who, having long in the jails of most of the principal cities in the Union, I had become well acquainted with, and I am confident I speak their unanimous sentiment, when I say, to you that yours is utterly unworthy of a gentlemanly acquaintance like Buffalo. From a lack of ventilation it is full of vile smells, and from the fact that the gas room in it is to receive a rate who has been accustomed to the refinements of polite society.

The yard, too, which might just as well have been full of beautiful flowers, has not in it one single green thing, and then it was so very inconsiderate to have had that great, threatening stone wall built, which appears to be ever ready to fall down.

The bearer of this will pay you twenty-five cents, for which I wish you to send me your paper regularly for *one* month, and mind and don't let the trip miscarry, for I assure you, otherwise the keeper might get it and carry it off to his room. I don't believe now that you'll send it, for I have been so long without one that he should have part of the paper; so I set down, made a statement of my case, and sent it with all the "rhino" I could muster, to the publisher.

Mr. Morris—Sir: I have, according to your instructions, made a formal sale of your corn, and remitted you the proceeds, as follows:

Against which I have a counterclaim for	
Corn	$150.00
Corncribs	20.00
Corncribs	20.00
Corncribs	20